SPECIAL PLACES

A Newsletter of The Trustees of Reservations

Fall 1993

In pursuit of balance

As the memories of another summer are tucked away, it's time for The Trustees to reflect on a challenging year of barrier beach management. Our mission mandates that we endeavor to balance preservation of natural resources with recreational use by the public. The challenge to do this is no more evident than at our five barrier beach properties — Cape Poge Wildlife Refuge, Coskata-Coatue Wildlife Refuge, Crane Memorial Reservation, Long Point Wildlife Refuge, and Wasque Reservation.

Every year hundreds of thousands of people flock to these remarkably unspoiled strips of beach to fish, hike, picnic and swim. Among the other users of the properties are several species of shorebirds — piping plovers, least terns and common terns, to name a few — which nest and raise their chicks on the beaches. Over the past several decades, human activity has devastated the populations of these and other shorebirds. To protect the threatened species, legislation has been enacted at both the federal and state level prohibiting them from being harmed, harassed, killed or having their breeding disrupted. Protection of these shorebirds is complicated by the fact that they breed during the summer, the season when the most people visit the beach.

To pursue our mission, as well as follow the law, The Trustees have developed several innovative management techniques: Predator "exclosures" protect nesting plovers. Signage and symbolic fencing ask visitors to avoid nesting tern colonies. At critical times during the nesting season, we have prohibited oversand vehicles (OSVs) from near a nesting site.

Evidence of the success of this multi-faceted approach was best seen at Coskata-Coatue this summer. The Nantucket beach was the nesting site for several pairs of piping plovers and the largest least tern colony on the island. In May, shorebird biologist Tina Whitman began monitoring the birds closely, and visitors were alerted to their presence. About a

week before the eggs began to hatch, OSVs were rerouted a safe distance away from the birds. But once the eggs hatched, protection efforts became more complicated.

During June and July, both piping plover and least tern chicks were on the beach. While both birds nest in similar areas, they differ in their feeding habits. Because plover chicks are *precocial* (they move away from the nest to feed at the wrack and shoreline soon after hatching), the northern section of Coskata from the Galls to Great Point was closed to vehicular traffic. Once the plover chicks fledged in late July, Refuge Manager Dick Bellevue suggested a technique that would allow us to reopen vehicular access to Great Point. Because least tern chicks are fed by their parents and therefore do not range as widely on foot as do plover chicks, Dick felt it was plausible to fence off the tern colony and establish a vehicle corridor to Great Point. Staff ecologists concurred and, with the backing of the Massachusetts Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, we designed and carried out this experiment in bird management.

Continued inside



Regional Ecologist Tom Chase (left) and Refuge Manager Dick Bellevue beside the mile-long stretch of mesh fencing erected at Coskata-Coatue Wildlife Refuge this summer.

Continued from front cover

More than a mile of 18"-high, ½" mesh fencing was erected along the east side of the tern colony, thus preventing injury to the terns while renewing access for off-road vehicles. Small wooden shelters were set up to ensure that the terns could find shade, and The Trustees' shorebird biologist carefully tracked the bird's response.

It is important to note that the use of fencing only became an option after the piping plover chicks had learned to fly. Until the plovers fledged, the only option available to The Trustees was to prohibit vehicular access to the Galls and Great Point.

As of this writing, monitoring continues, but the experiment seems to have been a success. We were able to reopen the full length of the refuge to vehicles earlier than expected and Coskata-Coatue's least tern colony fledged 175 chicks!

The island's shorebird management program yielded other benefits as well. Restricting vehicle use allowed five piping plover chicks to move about safely before they learned to fly. And many, many visitors, including those who participated in our Great Point Natural History Tours, savored the vehicle-free beach. Most important, The Trustees continued to balance recreation and preservation.

— Lisa Vernegaard, Associate Director for Planning and Ecology

93-acre parcel added to Notchview

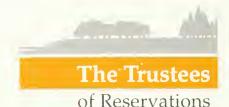
Thanks to a generous donation by F. Sydney and Rosamond Smithers of Windsor, a 93.6-acre tract of land on Savoy Hollow Road is now a protected wildlife corridor between The Trustees' 3,000-acre Notchview Reservation and the state's Moran Wildlife Management Area to the west. Together with the abutting Windsor State Forest, more than 6,000 contiguous acres of Berkshire countryside are now preserved for future generations.

The property contains a spruce-fir swamp and extensive stands of northern hardwoods and red spruce. An open field with brush islands increases the diversity and value of wildlife habitat, as do several small streams and springs. Old cart roads provide hiking and horseback riding opportunities.

"When we decided not to build our home on this parcel, we became concerned about its future," notes Syd Smithers, chairman of our Western Regional Committee and an Executive Committee member. "We are well acquainted with The Trustees' deserved reputation for open space stewardship and, most important, with the organization's mission of keeping its open spaces *open* for all the public to enjoy."

"In light of those considerations," adds Mundi, former chairman of the Notchview Committee, "the decision to add this parcel to Notchview was easy."

"With this gift, Syd and Mundi have gone beyond the call of duty," comments Director Fred Withrop. "We all benefit from the countless hours they devote to the cause of land conservation in the Berkshires, and their gift of this property underscores their deep commitment to the region's future."



The Trustees of Reservations is dedicated to preserving for public use and enjoyment properties of exceptional scenic, historic and ecological value throughout Massachusetts. Founded in 1891, it is the world's oldest land trust.

Today, The Trustees own and manage 75 properties, totaling more than 18,500 acres, and protect an additional 8,500 acres through the use of conservation restrictions.

The Trustees of Reservations is a private, non-profit organization and relies for support entirely upon membership dues, contributions, admission fees, grants and endowments.

Frederic Winthrop, Jr. Director

John F. Coleman
Deputy Director for Finance
and Administration

Richard T. Howe Deputy Director for Property Management

Lisa McFadden
Deputy Director
for Public Information

Ann F. Powell

Deputy Director

for Development

Wesley T. Ward
Deputy Director
for Land Conservation

Regional Supervisors

Richard O'Brien Central Region

Christopher Kennedy Islands Region

Wayne N. Mitton
Northeast Region

Thomas S. Foster Southeast Region

Stanley I. Piatczyc
Western Region

Lisa McFadden Marah Ren *Newsletter Editors*

From the 1993 Annual Report

It almost goes without saying that the fortunes of The Trustees of Reservations are closely tied to the weather. Therefore it would have been a miracle for the 1992 season to match the previous year's success story, and it didn't. Thirteen rainy weekends in the spring and summer saw to that, keeping people *out* of the out-of-doors and *off* the reservations. The sluggish economy didn't help either as the year-end annual appeal failed to make goal, falling 6 percent short.

Sounds pretty dismal, doesn't it? Well, the bad news ends there.

In fact, The Trustees of Reservations had a very good year, raising more dollars and saving more properties than ever before. In the process the books stayed balanced, thanks to strong discipline and rigorous cost controls throughout the organization. While response to the annual appeal was indeed down, membership growth was up, continuing the remarkable trend of recent years. Sales of memberships at the reservations themselves showed a dramatic 12.6 percent increase in spite of the weather.

In addition to annual giving, The Trustees received tremendous support for the land acquisitions of Coddings Meadow, the McMullan property and Upland Farm, and the post-hurricane restora-

Net Increase/Decrease for Year

tion of Mytoi gardens, the Doane's Falls Safety Fund, and the Long Hill master plan. In all, a total of 14,581 donors contributed \$1,413,642 to The Trustees last year.

These figures do not include donations to the Centennial Campaign. At this writing, over one thousand of you have brought us to within a million dollars of our \$10 million goal. By the time this report reaches your hands we fully expect to be over the top!

The second century of The Trustees of Reservations is certainly off to a super start. The enthusiasm and generosity of you, our supporters and volunteers, are truly phenomenal. Starting with the outstanding leadership of Chairman Norton Sloan and President Hall Peterson on down to our newest member, you all have made possible the successes that are described on the pages that follow. While we tend to measure our performance in numbers of acres saved or dollars raised, our greatest strength is the commitment of those who devote their time, energy and financial resources to the cause.

Future generations will undoubtedly add their thanks to ours.

Frederic Winthrop, Jr.
Director

Financial Highlights for the Year Ending March 31, 1993

Operating Fund Results (In thousands of dollars)	FY 1993	FY 1992	Endownent Market Value (In thousands of dollars)
			<u>FY 1993</u> TTOR Budd Total
Income:			Trusts
Reservation Receipts/Events	\$2015	\$2040	Beginning Balance
Investment Income	1696	1636	Contributions
Contributions	779	1071	Appreciation (Realized,
Membership Dues	560	518	Unrealized)
			Other Additions
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$5050</u>	<u>\$5265</u>	
			Total for March 31 <u>\$28321</u> <u>\$9742</u> <u>\$38063</u>
Expenses:			
Field Operations	\$3729	\$3995	
General and Administrative	558	534	
Development	343	330	
Land Conservation Center	273	268	Complete copies of the Annual Report are
Public Information	144	124	available upon request. Please contact the Membership Department at (508) 921-1944.
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$5047	<u>\$5251</u>	

14

$C \diamond A \diamond L \diamond E \diamond N \diamond D \diamond A \diamond R$

A Listing of Updated and Newly Scheduled Events

$N \bullet O \bullet V \bullet E \bullet M \bullet B \bullet E \bullet R$

SAT, NOV 6 Waterfowl on the River

Bartholomew's Cobble, Ashley Falls. 413-229-8600 Early November can be a great time to search for migrating duck. Join Naturalist Don Reid as we walk along the Housatonic River in our search for ducks, identify them and learn about their life histories. 9 AM to noon. Member adults \$3, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$5, children \$2.

SAT-SUN, NOV 20-21 Patterns of the Woods Swift River Reservation, Petersham. 508-840-4446 John Foster, Interpretive Naturalist, will help us identify several local species as the animals settle in for the winter. Bring a lunch or snack and binoculars. Sat 9 AM - 1 PM or Sun 1 PM - 5 PM. Member adults \$15. Non-member adults \$20. Children 12 and under free. Pre-registration required. Call Dick O'Brien to register.

FRI-SUN, NOV 26-28 Ante-Bellum Christmas The Old Manse, Concord. 508-369-3909
Celebrate the Christmas traditions of Sarah Ripley and her family in the warm surroundings of the Old Manse.
Sat 11-4, Sun 12-4 PM. Member adults \$3, children 6-12
\$1. Non-member adults \$5, seniors \$4, children \$3. For group rates and information, please call Stephanie Guidetti.

D + E + C + E + M + B + E + R



SAT-SUN, DEC 4-5

Ante-Bellum Christmas
The Old Manse, Concord.
508-369-3909
(See Friday, November 26 for description of event.)
Sat 11-4, Sun 12-4 PM. Member adults \$3, children
6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$5, seniors \$4, children \$3. For

group rates and information, please call Stephanie Guidetti.

SUN, DEC 5 Tours of The Great House

The Great House, Castle Hill, Ipswich. (508) 356-4351 Holiday decorations and the glow of fireplaces give a feeling of "Christmas Past." 1-4 PM. Members free. Non-member adults \$7, seniors and children (6-12) \$5. (Snow date: SAT, DEC 11)

TUES, DEC 7 Older Children's Christmas Program The Great House, Castle Hill, Ipswich. 508-356-4351 The Christmas season comes alive for the older children as A Festival of Light and Song presents The Brightest Night, a magical midwinter masque. Holiday refreshments are served. Don't miss this delightful winter program! 4 PM. \$15 children ages 8-12, \$10 each sibling, parents free. (Snow date: WED, DEC 8)

TUES, DEC 14 or THURS, DEC 16

Younger Children's Christmas Program
The Great House, Castle Hill, Ipswich. 508-356-4351
(Due to the popularity of last year's Christmas party, Castle Hill is giving two younger children's parties this year!)
Merry fires, the grandeur of the Great House, and the magic of Santa evoke the spirits of Christmas Past. The atmosphere will sweep the audience up into a medieval Christmas presented by The Company of Ipswich High School. Santa Claus stops by with a gift for each child.
Cookies and punch are served. 3:30 PM. \$15 children ages 3-7, \$10 each sibling, parents free. (Snow date for Dec 14: WED, DEC 15. Snow date for Dec 16: FRI, DEC 17)

SAT, DEC 18 Signs of Winter

Bartholomew's Cobble, Ashley Falls. 413-229-8600 The cold weather does not stop wildlife and its continuing struggle for survival. Join a naturalist at the Cobble and explore this struggle with the help of tracks and sign. Animals leave many clues behind for us to ponder. Weather permitting. 10 AM. Member adults \$3, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$5, children \$2.



J+A+N+U+A+R+Y

SAT, JAN 1 Welcome the New Year

Bartholomew's Cobble, Ashley Falls. 413-229-8600 Welcome the new year with a winter exploration of Bartholomew's Cobble. Weather permitting we will venture forth on snowshoes. If not we will explore on foot. Let's start a New Year tradition! 10 AM. Member adults \$3, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$5, children \$2. Snow shoe rental additional. Pre-registration required. Please call Don Reid to register.

SAT, JAN 29 Signs of Winter

Bartholomew's Cobble, Ashley Falls. 413-229-8600 The cold weather does not stop wildlife and its continuing struggle for survival. Join a naturalist at the Cobble and explore this struggle with the help of tracks and sign. Animals leave many clues behind for us to ponder. Weather permitting. 10 AM. Member adults \$3, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$5, children \$2.

$F \bullet E \bullet B \bullet R \bullet U \bullet A \bullet R \bullet Y$

SAT, FEB 26 Signs of Winter

Bartholomew's Cobble, Ashley Falls. 413-229-8600 (See Saturday, January 29 for description of event.) Weather permitting. 10 AM. Member adults \$3, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$5, children \$2.

Trustees' expertise fuels Dorchester clean-up



Directly across from
Franklin Park, one of the
jewels of Frederick Law
Olmsted's Emerald
Necklace, is Boston State
Hospital, closed down and
abandoned by the state in
the early 1980s. In early
August, a unique coalition,
led by The Trustees, joined
forces in an extraordinary
effort to demonstrate how
attractive and useful the
landscape at Boston State
Hospital could be.

At the heart of the project was Lena Park Community Development Corporation, which directly abuts Boston State Hospital. Working with a dozen field staff from The Trustees, a group of 40 youths from Lena Park helped improve and beautify two acres of the 195-acre site along the American Legion Highway in Dorchester.

Director Fred Winthrop's enthusiasm for the project reflects the tenets upon which The Trustees of Reserva tions was founded. "Charles Eliot, the renowned landscape architect who launched both The Trustees and the Metropolitan Park System at the end of the last century, did so to preserve accessible public open spaces for Boston's urban population. To my mind, collaborating with the Lena Park CDC — hailed nationwide as a model community development group — on reclaiming part of the Boston State Hospital site is the 1990s version of what Eliot envisioned in the 1890s."

During the intensive two-day clean-up, crews from The Trustees' Southeast and Northeast Regions cleared brush, felled trees, established a woodland trail, mowed the field and chipped all the debris. The Lena Park crew collected trash, raked leaves, gathered downed limbs, and spread the fresh wood chips. As a result, an open field ringed by well-established woodland emerged from what had been a densely overgrown dumping ground.

"One of the most important goals of this project was to design a management plan that was easy to keep up," explains Fred Winthrop. "We're confident that the volunteers at Lena Park will have a relatively easy time maintaining the property."

Richard Heath, Executive Director of the Boston GreenSpace Alliance, helped facilitate the project. He has committed his organization to developing a long-term plan for managing the property. "We'll facilitate a working group and forge ahead with improvements in this neighborhood. This project is having a positive impact on the residents who live here. Dorchester is an area that has had a lot taken away from it and not much invested back into it. The Trustees have taken a first step towards changing that."

RESTORATION 93

The International Conservation and Preservation Trade Event

December 6-8, 1993 Hynes Convention Center Boston, Massachusetts

The Trustees of Reservations has been invited to exhibit in the North American debut of a highly successful European preservation show. RESTORATION 93 has chosen Boston as the venue for its North American debut, and show organizers expect it to attract more than 250 exhibitors and 10,000 visitors, making it the largest preservation/conservation event ever held here. The Trustees of Reservations will be represented in one of the many special-interest pavilions featured on the exhibit floor.

RESTORATION 93 is targeted at preservationists of all types — owners of historic homes, architects, engineers, contractors, landscape architects, curators, conservators, archivists, appraisers, interior designers, artisans, reserachers, and government and conservation officials. The exhibition encompasses a broad array of products and services for restoring and preserving virtually every aspect of our cultural heritage — landscapes and parks, monuments, building interiors and exteriors, furniture, decorative arts, and all manner of collections.

Under the theme "Preservation and the Real World," the RESTORATION 93 conference includes more than 50 panel discussions, roundtables and workshops, many of them cross-disciplinary. Structured as two parallel programs, the conference offers one track for the trade professional, the other for the homeowner/collector.

The Trustees of Reservations has been given a limited number of passes to the RESTORATION 93 exhibit halls, which we'll make available to interested members on a first come-first served basis. Please call Lisa McFadden or Marah Ren in the Public Information Department if you're interested (508-921-1944).

If you would like details about registering for conference sessions or visiting the trade show, please call RESTORATION 93 at 617-933-6663.

Bequest to support Greenwood Farm

The Trustees of Reservations recently received a major bequest from Miss Sally Dodge, who died in August at her Ipswich home, Greenwood Farm.

In 1979, Miss Dodge and her sister, Alice Dodge Herling, gave Greenwood Farm to The Trustees, reserving a life estate for Miss Dodge. Upon her death, the farm became the property of The Trustees and by bequest Miss Dodge completed her preservation plan for the property by providing an endowment for the farm.

Greenwood Farm is a 138-acre property at the mouth of the Ipswich River. The property includes upland, five islands and more than 100 acres of salt marsh along Greenwood Creek and the Ipswich River. The tidal creeks and flats provide rich feeding grounds for waterfowl, shorebirds and wading birds and serve as nursery areas for finfish and shellfish. The upland meadows are home to songbirds, wild flowers and foxes. The Paine House, an important 17th-century integral saltbox dwelling, adds an historic component to the scene.

Plans for opening Greenwood Farm to the public will be announced at a later date.

Planned Giving

A bequest is one way to ensure that your desire to support the work of The Trustees of Reservations is fulfilled.

If you would like information on bequests or on planned giving arrangements that can provide a life income as well as current tax advantages, please contact

Ann Powell at (508) 921-1944.

S * H * O * R * T * S

• We are pleased to welcome Kendra Crosby as our new GIS Specialist. Kendra is responsible for managing all aspects of The Trustees' Geographic Information System and will work to produce property maps and manage information for property planning.

Kendra comes to The Trustees with seven years of experience as a systems engineer and a masters degree in Natural Resource Science from The University of Rhode Island. She has worked to apply computer technology and spatial modeling to several natural resource management challenges, including wetland protection and greenway planning. We are pleased to put her experience to work at TTOR!

- Thanks to Brian Denman and Carlton Akins for their generous and immediate response to Tom Chase's "wish list" request for a personal computer and printer for the Islands Regional Office.
- Sheila Rassetti responded to the Southeast Region's request for a two-drawer filing cabinet and doubled their pleasure by providing them with a four-drawer cabinet!
- Thanks to Beth Nesbitt for her contribution of a camera for the Islands office!
- Welcome to Julie Stevens and Darlene Walsh, who joined the Development office staff in August, and thanks to Theo Hall, who helped during the transition.

♦ The newly created Claire Saltonstall Educational Programs (CSEP), endowed through the generosity of William and Jane Saltonstall, and with an additional start-up gift from Dr. William and Nan Harris, has been a tremendous success.

The CSEP were designed to introduce Martha's Vineyard students (grades 1-12) to The Trustees' properties through original research and hands-on projects. In one year, Naturalist Luanne Johnson involved about 320 students in the ecology of Long Point and Wasque Reservation. Classes provided The Trustees' ecology staff with information on how our prescribed burning program affects the prey of the endangered northern harrier hawk; others propagated rare, native wildflowers for re-introduction to our sandplain restoration sites. The ecology staff wish to express their gratitude to the Saltonstalls, Harrises, and the many teachers who made this program possible. We look forward to an even more successful year ahead!

• On Saturday, November 6, the New England Wild Flower Society is sponsoring a day-long symposium, "Ecological Restoration: A Northeastern Perspective" at Salem State College. Demonstration of the means of establishing vigor, beauty, and ecological complexity in both natural and created landscapes will be presented by practitioners from academic, conservation and consulting fields. Pre-registration required by October 27. Please call 508-877-7630 for details.

Annual Appeal funds our mission

Fall is the time for one of the most important events of The Trustees' year — the Annual Appeal. Annual giving plays a key role in funding our dual mission of caring for our 75 existing reservations and reaching out, through our Land Conservation Center, to protect additional land.

This year we have asked for your support more often than usual. In addition to your membership support, we also asked you to consider making a gift to the Centennial Campaign. But, we still need your help with the Annual Appeal.

This year's goal is \$818,000. The goal is subdivided into several parts, the largest being *The 1891 Society* goal of \$578,000. Headed by Lee Albright of Brookline and Al Creighton of Manchester, this dedicated group of individuals who annually give \$1,000 or more, forms the backbone of support for The Trustees. Their support is vital to the success of the 1993 appeal.

The grassroots program, gifts below \$1,000, has grown remarkably in recent years as more and more people make a gift above and beyond their membership dues to aid the work of The Trustees. This part of the program, headed by Susanna B. Weld of Essex, has a goal of \$190,000.

The remaining \$50,000 comes from corporate donations and matching gifts programs. If your company matches charitable contributions, be sure to include a matching gift form with your donation to the Annual Appeal. It is a wonderful way to double or even triple your support for The Trustees.

Your generous support is essential to our success. If you usually support the Annual Appeal, please consider increasing your gift this year. If you have never given to the Annual Appeal, please do so now. We need your help.

Tax law incentives encourage donors

A recent change in federal income tax law provides important incentives for charitable donations of property that has appreciated in value, including real estate, stocks and bonds, and personal property. The Budget Reconciliation Bill passed by Congress in late July repealed the treatment of certain charitable donations as tax preference items under the alternative minimum tax.

For the first time in seven years, all taxpayers (whether they pay the regular income tax or the alternative minimum tax) can once again deduct the full fair market value of appreciated property — land, conservation restrictions, or stock. In other words, a gift of appreciated property will no longer trigger the alternative minimum tax calculation. The change is retroactive to January 1, 1993.

"We know that the Alternative Minimum Tax has deterred or delayed important gifts to The Trustees, including some significant conservation properties," said Wes Ward, Director of The Trustees' Land Conservation Center. "This change should encourage prospective donors to reconsider the advantages of giving land or restrictions as well as stocks, bonds, and other property to The Trustees."

The Trustees' Standing Committee formally supported this change. For several years, the national Land Trust Alliance, of which we are a sponsor, has led conservationists' efforts to obtain Congressional approval.



Justin Gordon and the Sultans of Sand, Grand Champions of the first-ever Crane Beach Sand Blast!

We had a Blast!

More than 100 builders and 10,000 spectators filled Crane Beach on August 28th for the first-ever Crane Beach Sand Blast! Dinosaurs and dragons coexisted with a walrus, several sea turtles, and a family of couch potatoes. The "Batmobile" parked in a neighborhood of classic fairy tale castles, and Fenway Park was relocated next to the Roman Coliseum. A Zoning Board's nightmare! But the crowd loved this whimsical lack of planned, integrated development!

The big winner of the day was volunteer chairman Cici Ives of Hamilton, whose year-long effort made this our most successful event of the year. Thanks to Cici, her 40 volunteers, and the staff at Crane Beach!

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Conserving the Massachusetts Landscape Ilea Since 1891

of Reservations

The Trustees

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BEVERLY, MA

PERMIT NO. 92

As the season of giving approaches, don't forget the perfect gift – membership in The Trustees of Reservations.



We'll make your gift giving as easy as possible by sending the new membership packet directly to the recipient or to you, if you would prefer to present your gift in person. Just let us know your preference. Each packet will contain a special card with your name and any special message you'd like to convey.

I'd	like to give a gift membership at this level: □Individual (\$35) □ Contributing (\$75) □Sr./Student (\$25)□ Supporting (\$100) □Family (\$50) □ Sustaining (\$250) □Sr./Student (\$40)□ Sponsor (\$500)
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	☐ Please send the membership packet to my address.

Please make checks payable to The

Trustees of Reservations and return, with this form, to: Membership Office,

572 Essex Street, Beverly, MA 01915-1530.